

#### REMARKS

The specification has been amended to provide sequence identifiers for the amino acid sequences of native mature human IFN- $\beta$  (SEQ ID NO:1) and a C17S mutein of native mature human IFN- $\beta$  (SEQ ID NO:2) described on page 6, lines 27-29, and page 7, lines 6-8, respectively, of the specification. A new Sequence Listing setting forth the recited sequences is filed concurrently herewith. These sequences are described in U.S. Patent No. 5,814,485, which is incorporated by reference in the present application. *See*, lines 27-29 on page 6 of the specification. The specification has also been amended at page 9, line 6, to correct an obvious typographical error. The phrase should read "and a gap penalty of 4." No new matter is added by way of these amendments or presentation of this Sequence Listing. Entry of this Sequence Listing and these amendments to the specification is respectfully requested.

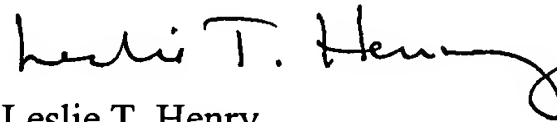
Responsive to the Restriction Requirement, Applicants elected Group II claims directed to products prepared by the methods recited in the Group I claims. Accordingly, Applicants have amended the claims to conform with product-by-process claim format. Support for the product-by-process claims resides throughout the specification and in the original claims. Claim 17 has been amended to provide proper antecedent basis for the solution comprising residual guanidine hydrochloride at a concentration of 0.1 M or less. Support for this amendment resides in the base claim, i.e., claim 16.

New claims 21-35 have been added. Support for claims 21, 26, and 31 resides in the specification, for example, at page 6, line 27, continuing through page 7, line 16. Support for claims 22, 27, and 32 resides in the specification, for example, at page 6, lines 23-26. Support for claims 23, 28, and 33 resides in the specification, for example, at page 10, line 18, continuing through page 11, line 4. Support for claims 24, 29, and 34 resides in the specification, for example, at page 8, lines 16-19, and page 9, lines 4-7. Support for claims 25, 30, and 35 resides in the specification, for example, at page 6, lines 9-13, and in original claims 1, 5, and 13.

No new matter has been added by way of claim amendment or presentation of new claims. Prior to the substantive examination of this application on its merits, the Examiner is respectfully requested to enter these amendments to the claims.

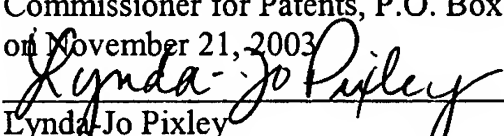
It is not believed that extensions of time or fees for net addition of claims are required beyond those that may otherwise be provided for in documents accompanying this paper. However, in the event that additional extensions of time are necessary to allow consideration of this paper, such extensions are hereby petitioned under 37 CFR § 1.136(a), and any fee required therefore (including fees for net addition of claims) is hereby authorized to be charged to Deposit Account No. 16-0605.

Respectfully submitted,



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<b>CUSTOMER NO. 00826</b> <b>ALSTON &amp; BIRD LLP</b> Bank of America Plaza 101 South Tryon Street, Suite 4000 Charlotte, NC 28280-4000 Tel Raleigh Office (919) 862-2200 Fax Raleigh Office (919) 862-2260	<b>CERTIFICATE OF MAILING</b> I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on November 21, 2003  Lynda-Jo Pixley
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